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PATENTS**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Andreas, Bernard et al

Serial No.: 09/651,344

Filed: August 29, 2000

For: Articulating Suturing Device and Method

Attorney Docket No.: 6771.US.D1

Art Unit: Unassigned

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 3/4/05
Kelly J. McCrystle Date

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Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above are the following:

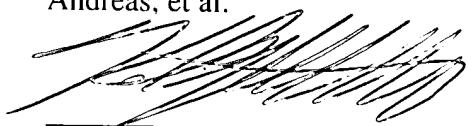
1. Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages, in duplicate)
2. Copies of References listed in Form PTO-1449 (4 References)
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23492

ABBOTT LABORATORIES
Telephone: (650) 474-3326
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Respectfully submitted,
Andreas, et al.



Kelly J. McCrystle
Registration No. 46,257
Attorney for Applicants



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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

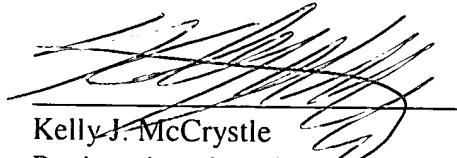
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form. Copies of the listed documents are attached if necessary as specified under 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge or credit any over payments to Deposit Account No. 01-0025. The Commissioner also is authorized to charge our Deposit Account any additional fees (or credit any over payments) that may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 in association with this communication for which full payment has not been tendered. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

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Kelly J. McCrystle
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Attorney for Applicants



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known	
Application Number	09/651,344
Filing Date	August 29, 2000
First Named Inventor	Andreas, Bernard
Art Unit	unassigned
Examiner Name	unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	6771.US.D1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609 Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant ²Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁴Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible ⁷Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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